Subj.

DCI/IC 77-1928
14 September 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy to the DCI for the
                  Intelligence Community

STAT   FROM   :
                            Chairman, Security Committee

              SUBJECT   :   Proposed Executive Order on Security Classification

1. Attached for your information is a 13 September 1977 letter from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, forwarding the draft of a proposed Executive Order on "National Security Information and Material." This is the product of the PRM-29 effort. Through misunderstanding on the part of the drafter, Mr. Kienlen of OMB, identical copies of the attached letter were sent both to you and to the DCI. Mr. Kienlen was under the misapprehension that such was necessary to get both CIA and Community-oriented comments on the draft Order. [   ] has assured STAT him that the DCI's comments will cover both aspects.

2. We have distributed copies of the proposed Order to IC Staff components (OPP, OPEI, SIGINT Committee, COMIREX, HUMINT Committee, and
STAT [   ] asking for any comments they may have thereon. Such will be coordinated with the Office of the General Counsel for inclusion in the consolidated DCI reply to OMB. We have also arranged with [STAT
STAT OGC, to have [   ] discuss with interested CIA offices the background and intent of those portions of the proposed Order which would bear closely on the Intelligence Community.

3. Comments on the proposed Order are due in OMB by 14 October, with the new Order to take effect 1 March 1978.

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Attachment:
   OMB/GC Letter, dated 13Sep77,
      w/enclosure

MORI/CDF All Pages

SUBJECT: Proposed Executive Order on Security Classification

Distribution: DCI/IC 77-1928
   Orig. - Addressee w/att.
       1 - SECOM Subj. File w/att.
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DCI/IC/SECOM: [   ] 4Sep77

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

September 13, 1977

Mr. John N. Mc Mahon
Acting Deputy to the DCI
    for the Intelligence Community
Washington, D. C.   20505

Dear Mr. Mc Mahon:

Herewith, in accordance with the provisions of Executive
Order No. 11030, as amended, is a proposed Executive order
entitled "National Security Information and Material."

This proposed draft is based on the recommendations of
an interagency working group which was formed to draft
a replacement for Executive Order No. 11652.

In accord with the President's direction, the purpose
of this draft proposed order is to mold a manageable
classification system that will provide greater openness
in Government while at the same time effectively protecting
sensitive national security information.

Before submitting a proposed order to the President for
his consideration, I would appreciate your comments on
the content of the proposed order so the President may
have the benefit of your views. While the form and style
of this draft proposed order can be improved editorally,
and your editorial suggestions are welcome, your substan-
tive comments are especially solicited.

In general terms, this draft proposed order attempts to
ensure more openness in Government activities by estab-
lishing stricter and more definitive standards than pres-
ently exist for the classification of national security
information. While it recognizes the special nature of
information received from foreign governments, this draft
would change the general guidelines and procedures for

determining the length of time information may remain classified. It also includes provisions for more oversight of the classification process.

On behalf of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, I would appreciate receiving your comments concerning this proposed Executive order. Comments or inquiries may be submitted by telephone to Mr. Ronald A. Kienlen of this office (395-5600; IDS 103-5600). If you have any comments, they must be received by Friday, October 14, 1977.

Sincerely,

William M. Nichols
General Counsel

Enclosure